

Appl. No. 10/810,002
Amendment F dated July 9, 2009
Resp. to O.A. dated April 24, 2009

PATENT
Docket No. J-3949

Listing of the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Withdrawn) The combination of claim 1, wherein the valve actuating apparatus comprises an arm disposed in interacting relation with a tube that is inserted into a female valve of the container.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Withdrawn) The combination of claim 1, wherein valve actuating apparatus is permanently secured in fixed relation to the container.

6. (Withdrawn) The combination of claim 1, wherein container includes a valve stem and wherein the valve actuating apparatus is integral with the valve stem.

7-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Withdrawn) The combination of claim 1, wherein the valve actuating apparatus comprises a disc.

18. (Cancelled)

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19. (Currently Amended) An actuator cap, comprising:

- a main wall that extends generally along an axial dimension thereof and has a varying cross sectional size;
- a flexible actuator member integrally extending transversely from the main wall transverse to the axial dimension and terminating at an outer peripheral surface wherein the outer peripheral surface extends laterally beyond a portion of the main wall but does not extend beyond a greatest lateral extent of the main wall; and
- an upright portion having a curved outer surface disposed adjacent the flexible actuator member, wherein the curved outer surface is engageable adapted to engage with an internal surface of a housing to guide the flexible actuator member and prevent inadvertent actuation of the flexible actuator member, wherein the housing is spaced outwardly from the main wall when the actuator cap is placed in the housing.

20. (Previously presented) The actuator cap of claim 19 in combination with a container, wherein the container has a maximum radial dimension and wherein the outer peripheral surface does not extend outwardly beyond the maximum radial dimension.

21. (Previously presented) The actuator cap of claim 19 in combination with a container, wherein the actuator member has a length between a center of the actuator cap and the outer peripheral surface greater than one-half of a radius of the container.

22. (Previously presented) The actuator cap of claim 21, wherein the length is between about 18 mm and about 33 mm.

23. (Previously presented) The actuator cap of claim 21, wherein the length is about 25 mm.

24. (Currently Amended) The actuator cap of claim 19 in combination with a container and a housing, wherein the housing includes a housing wall that tapers to a discharge opening wherein the discharge opening has a size larger than a radius of the container and wherein the outer peripheral surface is disposed in interfering relationship with the housing wall when the container and the actuator cap are disposed in the housing.

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25. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 24, wherein relative movement of the container and the housing along a longitudinal dimension of the container causes the outer peripheral surface to contact a surface of the housing wall, thereby displacing a valve actuating apparatus.

26. (Previously presented) The combination of claim 24, wherein the discharge opening has a cross sectional size of about 34 mm.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Previously presented) The actuator cap of claim 19, wherein the actuator member comprises an arm.

29. (Previously presented) The actuator cap of claim 28, comprising multiple actuator members extending transversely to the axial dimension and terminating at circumferentially separated outer peripheral surfaces.

30. (Withdrawn) An actuator cap, comprising:
a main wall that extends generally along an axial dimension thereof and has a varying cross sectional size; and
an actuator member that is movable relative to the main wall wherein the actuator member has an outer peripheral surface extending laterally beyond the main wall at the axial location of the outer peripheral surface.

31. (Withdrawn) The actuator cap of claim 30, wherein the actuator member has a length between a center of the actuator cap and the outer peripheral surface between about 18 mm and about 33 mm.

32. (Withdrawn) The actuator cap of claim 30 in combination with a container, wherein the actuator member has a length between a center of the actuator cap and the outer peripheral surface and the length is greater than one-half of a radius of the container.

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33. (Withdrawn) The combination of claim 32, wherein the outer peripheral surface extends laterally beyond a maximum radial dimension of the actuator cap.

34. (Withdrawn) The combination of claim 33, wherein the outer peripheral surface extends laterally beyond a maximum container radial dimension.

35. (Withdrawn) An actuator cap, comprising:
a main wall having an axial dimension and tapering between first and second ends;
and
an actuator member extending transversely to the axial dimension and ending in an outer peripheral surface, wherein the outer peripheral surface extends laterally beyond a portion of the main wall at the axial location of the outer peripheral surface and wherein the actuator member is disposed intermediate the first and second ends.

36-39. (Canceled)

40. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 37, wherein the valve is a female valve.

41. (Canceled)

42. (Canceled)

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43. (Currently Amended) An actuator cap, comprising:

a main wall extends generally that decreases in cross sectional size along an axial dimension thereof and has a varying cross sectional size defined between first and second ends of the main wall;

a flexible actuator member extending transversely to the axial dimension and terminating at an outer peripheral surface wherein the outer peripheral surface extends laterally beyond a portion of the main wall but does not extend beyond a greatest lateral extent of the main wall; and

an upright portion having a curved outer surface disposed adjacent the flexible actuator member, wherein the curved outer surface prevents inadvertent actuation of the flexible actuator member and the upright portion includes an arcuate gusset on an internal surface thereof.

44. (Previously presented) The actuator cap of claim 43, wherein the upright portion aligns the actuator member with a discharge opening of a housing.

45. (Previously presented) The actuator cap of claim 43, wherein the actuator member has a length of between about 18 mm and about 33 mm between a center of the actuator member and the outer peripheral surface.

46. (Previously presented) The actuator cap of claim 45, wherein the length is about 25mm.

47. (Canceled)

48. (Previously presented) The actuator cap of claim 43, further including an inner circumferential wall that is adapted to receive a valve stem.

49. (Previously presented) The actuator cap of claim 48, wherein ribs are provided within the circumferential wall to engage the valve stem.

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50. (Previously presented) The actuator cap of claim 43, including a circumferentially inwardly-tapered flange that is adapted to snap fit over a container.

51. (Currently Amended) An actuator cap and housing therefor, comprising:
a main wall that extends generally along an axial dimension thereof and has a varying cross sectional size;

a flexible actuator member extending transversely to the axial dimension and terminating at an outer peripheral surface wherein the outer peripheral surface extends laterally beyond a portion of the main wall but does not extend beyond a greatest lateral extent of the main wall;

an upright portion having a curved outer surface disposed adjacent the actuator member, wherein the curved outer surface is engageable with an internal surface of [[a]] the housing to guide the flexible actuator member and prevent inadvertent actuation of the flexible actuator member; [[and]] wherein

~~a-container-and-a-housing, the housing having includes a housing wall that tapers to a discharge opening and is adapted to secure a container therein that has a radius smaller than the discharge opening such that wherein the discharge opening has a size larger than a radius of the container and wherein the outer peripheral surface is disposed in interfering relationship with the housing wall when the container and the actuator cap are disposed in the housing.~~

52. (Previously presented) The actuator cap of claim 51, wherein relative movement of the container and the housing along a longitudinal dimension of the container causes the outer peripheral surface to contact a surface of the housing wall, thereby displacing a valve actuating apparatus.

53. (Previously presented) The actuator cap of claim 51, wherein the wall of the actuator cap is circumferential.

54. (New) The actuator cap of claim 19 in combination with a housing.